

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

4-301.

The Governor is hereby authorized and directed to execute a compact on behalf of the State of Maryland with any one or more of the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Massachusetts and Florida and with such other states as may enter into the compact, legally joining in the form substantially as follows:

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Compact

The contracting states solemnly agree:

AMENDMENT I

THE STATES CONSENTING TO THIS AMENDMENT AGREE THAT ANY TWO OR MORE OF THEM MAY DESIGNATE THE ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION AS A JOINT REGULATORY AGENCY WITH SUCH POWERS AS THEY MAY JOINTLY CONFER FROM TIME TO TIME FOR THE REGULATION OF THE FISHING OPERATIONS OF THE CITIZENS AND VESSELS OF SUCH DESIGNATING STATES WITH RESPECT TO SPECIFIC FISHERIES IN WHICH SUCH STATES HAVE A COMMON INTEREST. THE REPRESENTATIVES OF SUCH STATES ON THE ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION SHALL CONSTITUTE A SEPARATE SECTION OF SUCH COMMISSION FOR THE EXERCISE OF THE ADDITIONAL POWERS SO GRANTED PROVIDED THAT THE STATES SO ACTING SHALL APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THIS PURPOSE. THE CREATION OF SUCH SECTION AS A JOINT REGULATORY AGENCY SHALL NOT DEPRIVE THE STATES PARTICIPATING THEREIN OF ANY OF THEIR PRIVILEGES OR POWERS OR RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION UNDER THE GENERAL COMPACT (CONSENTED TO BY PUBLIC LAW 721, 81ST CONGRESS, 2ND SESSION, APPROVED AUGUST 19, 1950).

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act may not take effect until a similar Act is passed by the states participating in the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Compact; that those states are requested to concur in this Act of the General Assembly of Maryland by the passage of a similar Act; and that upon that event the Governor of the State of Maryland shall issue a proclamation declaring this Act valid and effective.

Approved April 11, 1978.